



Copy 3 of 4

NRO REVIEW COMPLETED

12 July 1961

RECIPIENT FOR : Chief, Development Branch, SPS-20/T

SUBJECT : Simultaneous CONONA/IDEALIST Coverage

1. PURPOSE: Simultaneous coverage of typical intelligence targets in the SI by CONONA and IDEALIST would permit a critical analysis of the capabilities and limitations of these collection systems. For example, a precise aircraft count in conjunction with identification by IDEALIST would produce a yardstick or key by which the information content of CONONA could be compared.

2. APPROACH: One of the next CONONA "engineering" passes over the SI will be carefully programmed to permit coordination with [redacted] for an IDEALIST mission over the same area at the same time. The IDEALIST personnel need not know the reason for the mission, but should be prepared for a general "test" ahead of time. When the CONONA orbit and on-off points are established, last minute corrections to the flight lines can be supplied to [redacted]. From a quick look, it appears that one CONONA engineering pass will be close to [redacted]

[redacted] These areas should produce very good target information for analysis and is within easy reach of Edwards AFB.

25X1

3. GENERAL: This item has been verbally initiated among interested Headquarters personnel and is being planned for the next CONONA mission.

SIGNED



25X1A

Distribution:

1-CV/DO/DPD
2-SPD/INTEL
3-SPD/SPS
4-SPD/SPS
5-SPIC
6-CI/ENR/DPD
7-SPD/DO
8-SPD/IL

25X1A

SPD/DO

SECRET